RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 **EXPEDITED PROSECUTION** ART UNIT 1617 # 17/C

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Arthur J. Coury, Stephen D. Goodrich, Hildegard M. Kramer, Luis Z. Avila, John

F. Traverse, and Peter K. Jarrett

Serial No.:

09/658,390

Art Unit:

1617

Filed:

September 8, 2000

404-881-0470

Examiner:

M. Willis

For:

HYDROGELS FOR ORTHOPEDIC REPAIR

BOX AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

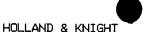
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on January 6, 2003, please amend the application as follows. Submitted with this response and amendment is a Request for Continued Examination. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charged \$750.00, the fee for a Request for Continued Examination, to Deposit Account No. 50-1868. It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

ATL1 #565506v1

FTT 126



U.S.S.N. 09/658,390 Filed: September 8, 2000 AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Amendment

Please enter the following amendment.

Claims 1-37 (Canceled).

38. (currently amended) A composition for forming a water-absorbing, high modulus polymeric material comprising at least one macromer and at least one monomer,

wherein the macromer comprises hydrophobic and hydrophilic regions, and has a molecular weight of 500 to 200,000 Da and has at least two polymerizable groups,

wherein the monomer contains at least one vinyl group and has a molecular weight of less than 1,000 Da, and

wherein the monomer comprises at least 30% (wt/wt) of the composition, and wherein the composition is eapable of forming forms a gel upon polymerization.

- 39. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the composition is in the form of a fluid or paste.
 - 40. (Original) The composition of claim 38, further comprising water.
- 41. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the macromer is polyethyleneglycol-trimethylene carbonate-diacrylate.
- 42. (Original) The composition of claim 38, wherein the monomer is selected from the group consisting of vinyl caprolactam, methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, styrene, Nvinyl pyrrolidone, and N-vinyl imidazole, diacetone acrylamide, vinyloxyethanol, 2-acrylamido-2-methylpropane, and methyl acryloyl lactate and mixtures and derivatives thereof.

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